

MACHETE

SERIES 9 - ISSUE 1
RETROWAVE - FREE EDITION

MATHILDE

SURVIVING THE RADIOACTIVE VR
DEATHSCAPE

THE SYNTHWAVE
REVOLUTION

THE CYBER COLD WAR

REDISCOVERING THE
FREENET

GAMEZ | RATWARE | ONGAKU

10 YEARS OF MACHETE GIRL!

This marks 10 years since we
released the first issue.

JAN 2020

YOUR MONTHLY IMPLANT OF CYBERPUNK &
CYBERCULTURE



MACHETE GIRL MAGAZINE

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Bowen

Made using Affinity Publisher,
Design and Photo because fuck
Adobe.

THANKS TO OUR FIRST EVER
PATREONS

- Ville Vuorela
- Dean Bowen
- Mr Michael Furmedge

Machete Girl Magazine is making a comeback
with Series 9 of its issues from 2020.

2020 - The Decade of cyberpunk.

In previous sporadic issues I've looked back on the
inception of the magazine in 2009 and the ideas I
had around the Machete Girl Universe in 2007.
Originally the idea of the MGU was a dark and
horrible, sexual dystopian universe but it has
evolved so much further beyond that.

The Explosion of Synthwave has been a thing
over the last few years so we are going to delve a
little into that.

I'm yet to decide if I'm going to go back to the
original idea of releasing an issue per month.
Since I've stopped working as a slave for our
government I do have more time on my hands to
pump out some unique shit. And the Patreon has
got some awesome shit from Machete Girl in the
last decade as well as all the behind the scenes
new shit and full magazine version be sure to
check that out:

<https://www.patreon.com/machetegirl>

As terrible as the fires have been on the east coast
of Australia it's given us more opportunity to have
a look at what a dystopian western country might
look like. Everyone is wearing fucking masks,
some of them very badly, some of them are pretty
fucking cool and people have been looking to buy
stylish ones from overseas.

What am I missing out on in the PATREON
EDITON?

The Cyber Cold War with China
Series - Focus Hong Kong

Delve deeper into the Freenet

More Machete Girl Images

Ratware

And much more.

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MATHILDE

VR NET SURVIVALIST

Slip on the trodes and enter Arcadia. The Gateway to a dystopian reality spanning the distance of our alt universe online. The treacherous landscape of this sector includes harsh environments cause by smoke inhalation and constant drone attacks.

Mathilde is a net survivalist whose social media reach spans planets. Entering the harshest of net lanscapes and showing off how to survive. She makes millions in crypto alone not to mention all the free swag she gets to show off to her followers.

On her off-time she hangs out at the Drone Bar live performing her physical desires but out here in the dystopian wilderness her objective is just to get from place to place, reaching the next horizon and conquering the world within.


For those who are lucky enough to have the coin, Mathilde allows you to experience everything she feels and does during her journey. All the pain, the passion and those late nights in a hot toxic digital nuclear dystopia... and she's not afraid of exploring all the "unique" experiences that Arcadia has to offer.

Rolo is the spirit god of these lands. Once a mighty viking he was turned into a Bullicorn for defying the gods.



"Digital Endurance is everything. When you're hitting the highland VR Worlds make sure you pump yourselves full of stims otherwise your body in the real world will suffer. At these altitudes on planets like these they have different mixes of oxygen and your breathing pack will pick up on that."

Mathilde is know for taking on some of the toughest VR Terrain and that's why we've featured her in your current implant. So take a swig of Machete Girl Cola, sit back and enjoy the show.




Exploring deep into the mountains of the southeastern islands of this planet with an atmosphere with particulates twice as thick as Earth's, giving it a pink hue, it's hard to find supplies given the limited number of abandoned settlements. Avoiding drones down here is the biggest priority and once you kill one they will be on you like a swarm. It's good to know where the caves are located and never stray too far from food sources especially if your VR implants are coded to require sustenance or if you intend to spend many days in Arcadia.


It can get lonely out here in the farthest limits of this galaxy so be sure to load all kinds of stims to keep your body fresh.

If you do encounter any drones you'll need a diffuser to disrupt their coms and sensors, I use a MarkIV only because it has the perfect balance of weight versus range, some digital survivalists go in with the MarkVIII but you don't want to be knocking out too many drones comms five clicks away otherwise you will attract more attention. Then you have about ten seconds to make a kill shot so you'll need a weapon with a lot of stability and range.


On a lot of planets, depending on your guild treaty, you won't be able to light any fires or launch any atmospheric distress beacons but if you dare to go solo and your connection is well encrypted you might be able to hack the planetary network if you have the wiki.

A woman with long dark hair is sitting on a forest floor covered in ferns and dry leaves. She is wearing a black tank top, olive green cargo pants, and white sneakers. She has VR goggles on her head and a backpack. A yellow water bottle is visible in her backpack. She is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The background is a dense forest with tall trees and sunlight filtering through the canopy.


"No matter what anyone tells you, carving out your own path in Arcadia is essential to Success in VR. Whether it be traversing the vast landscapes, captaining a starship or manipulating the market from the cyber streets of Fell, everyone must take on their own unique challenges."



Rest stops are handy particularly in small villages. Gives you a break from the constant drone strikes. Also it's good for finding cans of stuff like beans and other stored goods. Fucking eat up I say.

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a black tank top, grey cargo pants, and a black backpack, is standing on a rocky mountain peak. She is looking back over her shoulder towards the camera. The backpack has a yellow water bottle and a black bag hanging from it. The landscape is a vast, hazy mountain range under a cloudy sky. The overall tone is cinematic and atmospheric.

"I'm too exposed. I feel a darkness coming. Out of the corners of my eyes I see shadows. I haven't eaten in days and this landscape seems to go on forever. I heard the creator died making this world. Chances are I might too. That's the risk we take as VR Survivalists and the thoughts that plague our minds. I could be in my penthouse right now being catered to by a myriad of servants or I could be at the bottom of the city in some dark wet basement using illegal nano tech pretending to be rich and famous. You wouldn't know. This is the world of the VR. Will anyone remember my name?"



Whenever I get to this point on a planet I have to take stock of what we've gained and what I've lost. The last time I came out of VR I was on plugs for weeks. I suspect that I might need a liver transplant after this one. Enduring dying worlds like this one remind me of the fears of the early 21st century. And they were right to fear. Our world is undergoing a catastrophic cascade of climate failure and it's left me wishing there was someone who stood up and said back in the 2020's that in another 20 years our planet would be dying. Don't get me wrong I love spending all my time in a world of my choosing. It's just that sometimes I wish we could do this in the real world. I heard that there's no long a place in London where you can stand on solid native ground without walking in the ocean.

Ah well... Time for more beans!





SARA PHINN - DREAMSEED



Dreamseed VR is the new brainchild of Sara Phinn a near legend in the VR community who has been working for years in breaking down barriers of the real world and pushing the limits of the VR World.

Her new youtube channel is undoubtedly cyberpunk, informative and key to keeping you updated on the latest news with implants of historical and cultural gems from an American perspective.

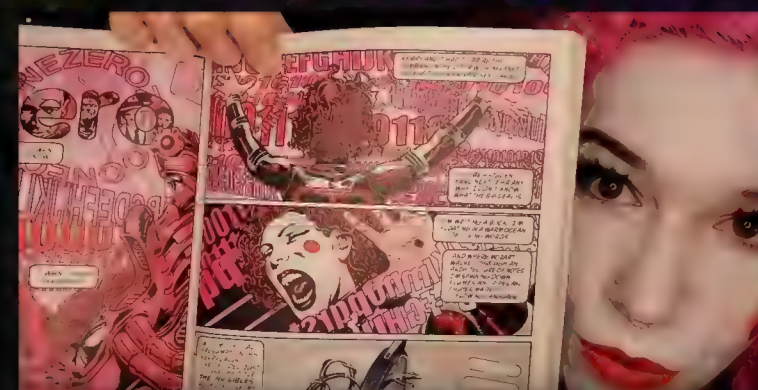
We also share the same first name which was weirdly how we became implant buddies in the first place. I fucken love her guts!

Check out her channel here:

[Dreamseed VR You Tube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

Website: <https://www.dreamseedvr.com/>

Patreon: <https://www.patreon.com/Saraphinn>



THE CYBER COLD WAR - HONG KONG

Certain that you are wanting to know more about the digital war front with the Chines Government in the recent Hong Kong and Taiwanese resistance. We are doing an expose on what's happening behind the scenes, the details of which we will publish in our [Patreon Edition](#).

Here's a few things though that you might not have been aware of.

On the face of it, China, via the Great Firewall, blocks social media platforms and monitors communications and regularly uses facial recognition software to identify individuals (which it seems a lot of Western Countries have adopted too - a clear violation of digital privacy rights).

Decentralisation has been a key factor of the success of groups like Anonymous, Occupy, Extinction Rebellion and now the protests in Hong Kong where they have been primarily using Facebook and WhatsApp to organise but even that now is being used against protesters by the corrupt Hong Kong Police and un-elected officials pandering the China's regime in intelligence gathering and suspensions of accounts. Protesters and organisers made the switch to Telegram which has suffered DDOS attacks from the Chines Government.

Anyone in or outside the country, that China's Strategic Support Force see as a threat, are being attacked by an army of cyber warriors loyal to the state. Of course many countries, including those of the five eyes alliance are countering these efforts but to what degree is anyone's guess. In my humble little opinion it feels like western governments are thinking as long as China is focused on Hong Kong and Taiwan they are spending less time on their aggressive expansion into the pacific. A dangerous assumption to make if anyone indeed is making it.

More on Patreon [here](#).



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Welcome to the future of Social Engineering!

CLICK ON THE IMAGE TO CONTACT US

REDISCOVERING THE FREENET

BY SARA RAE

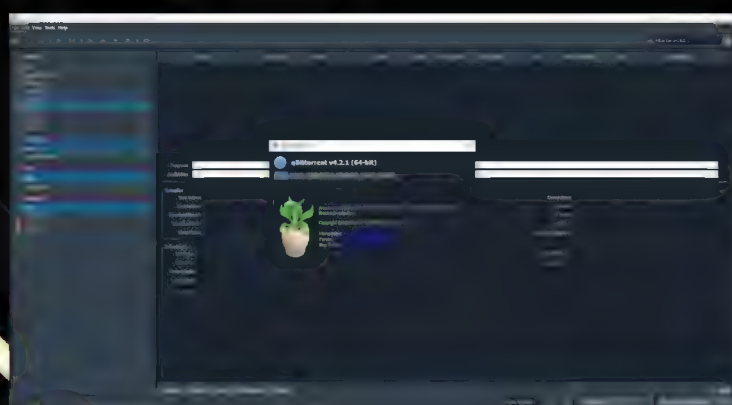
An ongoing exploration of where and why shit should be free on the net.

Recently I've been cutting down on the services i use from online paid video streaming platforms to music services and anything else that's been leaking my purse. In a bizarre way i feel like im rediscovering what the internet was designed for in the first place. A wild fucking platform where anything can happen, as opposed to the boring ins and outs of modern life. Unfortunately the internet has become a part of that and i wanted to explore what happens when i go a little bit deeper in order to find shit i ordinarily wouldn't otherwise find.

Now a bit of a disclaimer; while yes I'm searching for ways to keep money leaking out of my asshole like a sieve, i still support artist where i can, especially independent artists or programmers or filmmakers. If there's a mega corporation behind the work however i will go to fucking town.

First thing i did was turn off Netflix, Amazon and Disney (Why did i even sign on to Disney in the first place sigh... baby fucking Yoda), then painfully turned of my youtube subscription... I'd become so dependant on it that i didn't mind paying the fifteen or so bucks for the service and it sort of had become a drug for me. Just think of it as evil corporate nanites that had infected my sense of reasoning. I immediately went to qBittorrent and saw that there was an upgrade. Now I'd only been using it very sparingly to look up shit but not use but I knew this is the first place I needed to look. I looked up napster but like most things it's gone subscription based now. They (subscription based entities) entice you in with those fucking 30 day trials and then charge you before the 30 day trial begins so that you have to spend at least a month with them and you are more likely to get addicted.

Of course whatever you search for you still need to use a browser and search engine like DuckDuckGo or Torrent Freak for updated info, remembering I bought into the corporate animal for a while and this is all about rediscovery. You'll need to use a proxy to access most sites from Australia these days. Pretty east to find like <http://us13.proxysite.one/> or the Pirate Bay's own proxy <https://www.thepiratebay.se.net/>



So now that I've got a couple of old retro wave files. I need something to play them in that's not gonna fuck me up so much. I thought Winamp really is the one old reliable so I downloaded thatl giggled so hard when I heard the Winamp intro again after all these years "Winamp it really 'still' whips the Llama's ass"

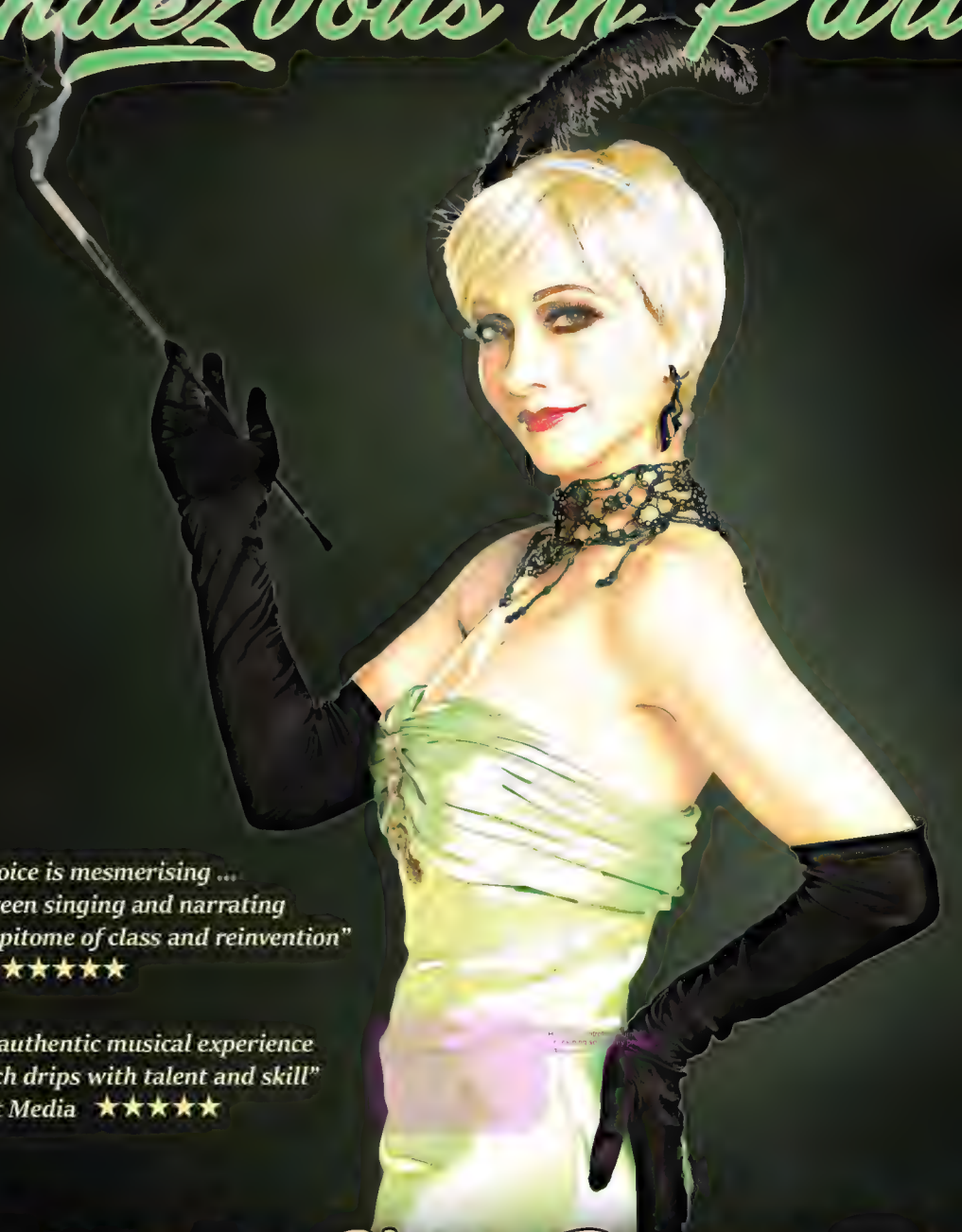


So while that has taken care of some of my audio needs, there's still some limitations which I need to break. Most notably with latest tv shows and films and having to click on incoming spam advertisements constantly. Again I will note I will support independent artists and films where I can, course if they want to be cunts then fuck em.



The next thing, because our digital rights don't exist anymore, is to use tor or a vpn for searching to mask your IP Address. Using PPTP on Windows 7,8 or 10 you can create your own VPN Server but that comes with its own vulnerabilities.

Nikki Nouveau presents !MONTMARTRE! Rendezvous in Paris



"Nouveau in full voice is mesmerising ... her phrasing between singing and narrating is flawless ... the epitome of class and reinvention"
- Theatre People ★★★★★

"An authentic musical experience which drips with talent and skill"
- Alt Media ★★★★★

The Carrington Hotel, Baroque Room
15 Katoomba St, Katoomba
Friday 21 February, 8:00pm
Tickets: nikkinouveau.com | (02) 4782 1111

Continue on to part 2 via Patreon.
<https://www.patreon.com/machetegirl>

THE SYNTHWAVE REVOLUTION

Over the last decade there's been a strong resurgence of synth music being dubbed synthwave/ darksynth, particularly from Retrowave Records, which portrays exactly what we wanted life in the future to be like should music formats not have progressed beyond the cassette tape. With the help of dystopian films like Turbo Kid (2015) and Ready Player One (2018) we are now live in a post modern synthwave ongaku age and there's a number of bands, singers and electronic artists who have been capitalising on the movement.



Gunship is one of the bands who are no doubt at the forefront of this style of postmodern syth wave. They've been releasing a myriad of excellent eye candy and have tapped in to the darkness and fears of the 80's adolescent mind which now translates well into the modern internet age.

Gunship love their 80's movies references from Blade Runner to Terminator and Robocop to Predator some of it cheesy as fuck some of it pretty good.

Watch: [Dark All Day](#) - in 4k

Check out their website here which has got some good shit on it. <https://www.gunshipmusic.com/>

One of my favourite song is "Gates of Disorder"



[Listen Here](#)



DATASTREAM 026



Personally, I'm obsessed with Nina and her song Beyond Memory, there's a few other good songs in her repertoire but this song for me elicits the most cyberpunk of visuals from my implant. Her music video doesn't offer much in the way of cyberpunk visuals other than being dark and somewhere in Europe but the song itself is fucken excellent and stands up to the I have listened to this song 5000 times test.

You can listen to her full album of Sleepwalking - in this spot

Deadlife is the prominent artist of the Synthwave/ Darkwave movement. Having released SIX albums in the last three years. His sense of the dark mixwave arts takes you into the hopelessness of an AI driven dystopian future.

Picked up by Retrowave Records after his success with Bionic Chrysalis, Ed Hawx has stayed true to the churn.

Check out the albums here on Bandcamp:

[Bionic Chrysalis](#)

[The Order of Chaos](#)

[Variations On The Resolve](#)

[Orphan](#) - Machete Girl Reccomended

[Rebel Nights](#)

[Singularity](#)



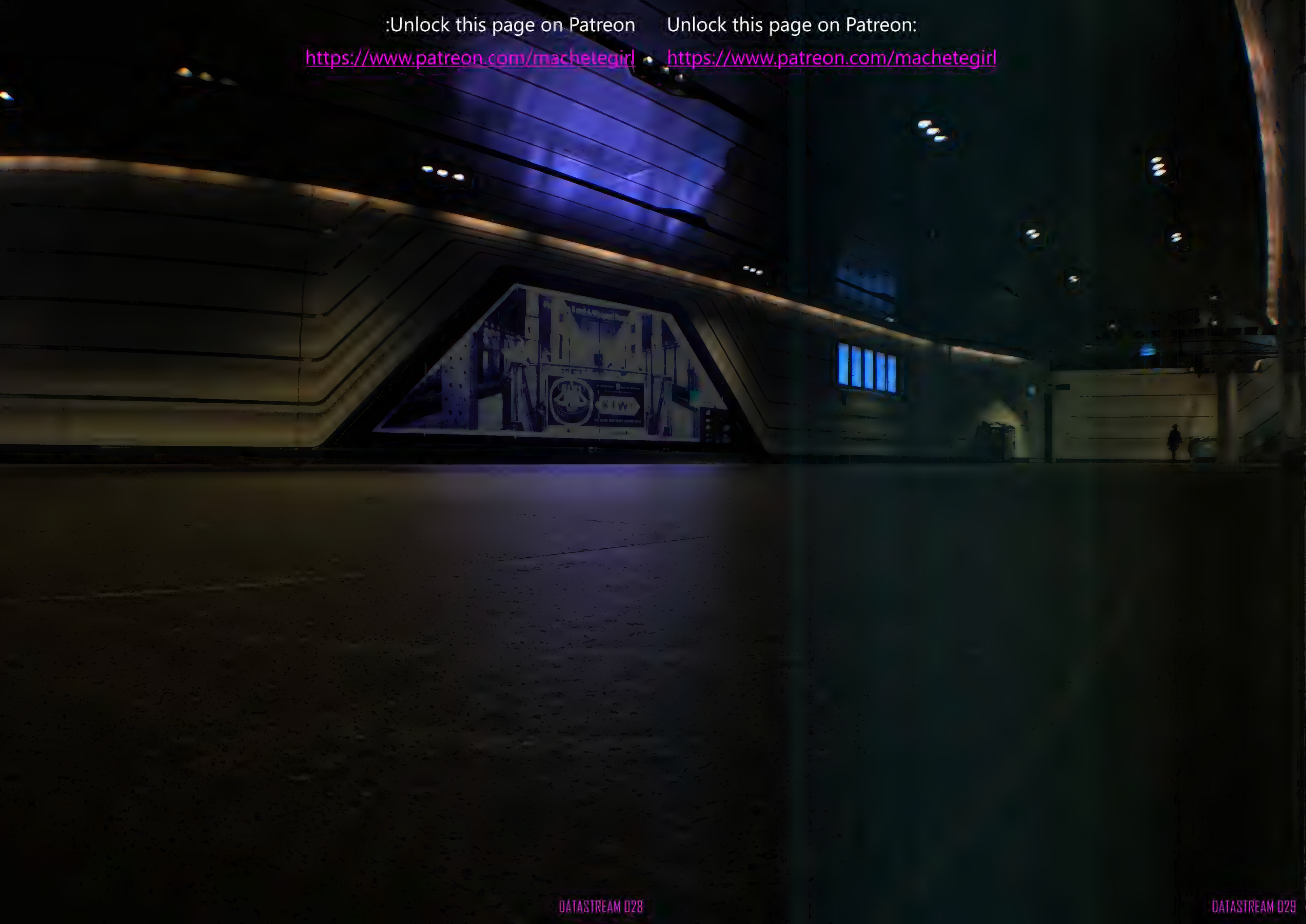
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ONGAKU

FEATURED ARTIST: BRUDERMUSIK - EP

Bruno Dante's, indeed Brüdermusik's elevation of the 2000's house genre with eclectic sampling of 80's cyberpunk film mixed with the most modern auditory brainwave faculty, has inspired me to put it into a new category of its own: "Cyber Haus"

<https://brudermusik.bandcamp.com/album/pleasure-model>



In general it's my opinion that most people don't understand the relationship between cyberpunk and music. Which is why I choose to call this section of the mag "Ongaku", which is simply Music in Japanese. Just as cyberpunk clothing is not limited to neon-ware or a very nice jacket. I think most of us who are pretty hardcore into cyberpunk understand that so I am simply going to express the relationship that I have to music whenever I'm thinking about dystopian worlds or writing the novel Machete Girl, World of Shattered Dreams...

I don't so much give a fuck about Grimes being 2077 or the latest band who are calling themselves "A cyberpunk band" this is more about having an experience where if you listen to the music deep enough you can in your mind lift your hand up onto your skull and feel the implanted technology.

Of late I've been listening to a lot of epic sci-fi and chill music mixes and youtube has filled my needs nicely. The epic landscapes and sounds of a well crafted piece of music going from the subtle hints of a water drop to the bassoprofondo of savagery oft give me a sense of purpose and forward momentum. Sometimes I can help but enjoy the extraordinary artwork and sit and listen before heading into a novel about the evolution of cats on another world.

Here are just some examples below for your listening pleasure. I've tried to pick ones without too much advertising which might annoy you.

CHILL MIXES:

Enjoy – Chillout Mix

<https://youtu.be/wdZxuEOyNMA>

Ludovico Einaudi - Seven Days Walking // Day One

<https://youtu.be/ntj-sP8y3kw>

Deus Ex: Ambient Mix (Mankind Divided // Human Revolution)

<https://youtu.be/7lERcfsqJSk>

Björk - Stonemilker (Forest Swords 45 min remix)

<https://youtu.be/Cz0wtOlqSU4>

Rain | Beautiful Chill Mix

<https://youtu.be/qO1dxspsYn0>

EPIC MUSIC MIXES:

CYBERPUNK | 2-Hours Epic Music Mix - THE POWER OF EPIC MUSIC

<https://youtu.be/YK8skcoofH8>

INTO THE VOID | 1-HOUR | Epic Futuristic Space Music Mix | Epic Sci-Fi Hybrid Music

<https://youtu.be/9kEMzXw7P2A>

World's Most Powerful & Emotional Vocal Music | 4-Hours Epic Music Mix - Vol.1

SYNTHWAVE MIXES:

DISTRICT 89' | Best of Synthwave And Retro Electro Music Mix

<https://youtu.be/qWZL5Rnfgtl>

JOURNEY - A Chillwave Synthwave Mix

<https://youtu.be/By5TRIKALU>

EDM:

Gioli & Assia

<https://youtu.be/478691MA1G4>

INDIVIDUAL SONGS (that have kept me going):

Forest Swords - Crow

<https://youtu.be/Ian-Pjv99Xk>



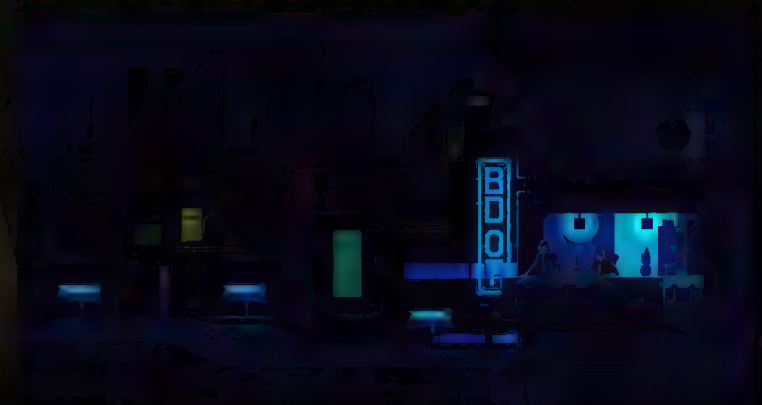
Röyksopp - Running to the Sea (Live)

<https://youtu.be/AMlJ78-7rZ4>



Deadlife - Hearts that were left Unfulfilled

<https://youtu.be/WminwORbz0F>





POLICE STATE

NEW SOUTH WALES...

Has become a mega police state with the recruitment of thousands of new police and millions more invested in what is known to have a culture of discrimination and abuse. Of police powers.

Oh but "Not all Police" right?

I'm sorry but if you are going to use that justification then it's a 'cop' out. Whilst several other unions in say health, fire brigade and education rally around peoples rights, the police Union are known for doing very little for their officers and therefore you get a toxic patriarchal culture that spreads into the public domain.

At the risk of using a cliché:

"FUCK DA POLICE"

It's

in

your

hands

POLICE RESCUE

- MEH they are fine, this is actually a productive group (not a typo - title of your sex tape)

TRAFFIC POLICE

Who make up their own laws as they go

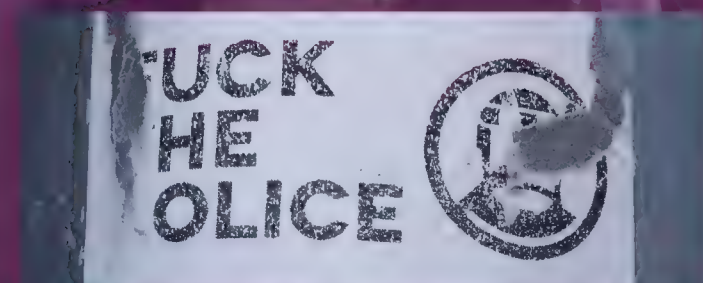
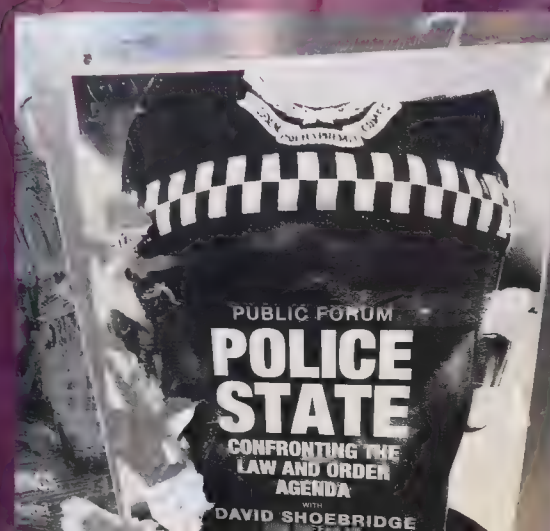
OVERZEALOUS Riot Police who now have fully automatic weapons on the streets targeting climate protestors

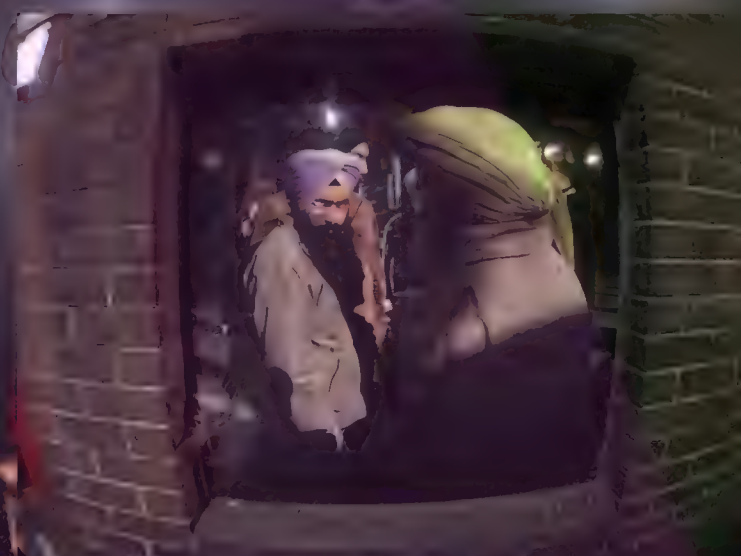
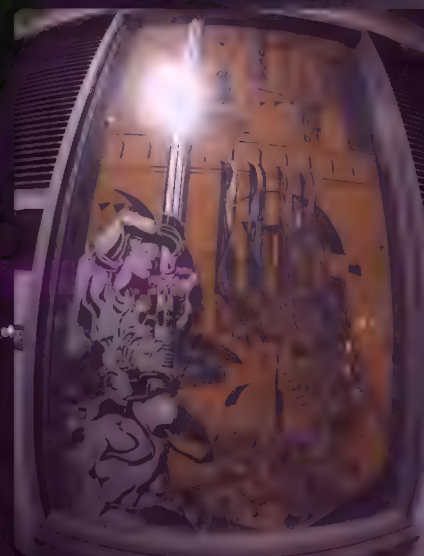
The NSW and other Police forces have been Known to be corrupt, incompetent and focused on the poorer elements of society. You'll constantly see them in cities writing tickets for homeless who will never be able to pay the fines, from inside the force there is a culture which has carried on to this day of misogyny and revenue raising where their focus as opposed to supporting the communities they are a part of. They seem to be more interested in their cool new fully automatic M4 assault rifles, in a country where we already have strong gun laws.

Here's an [article](#) in the Guardian explaining more

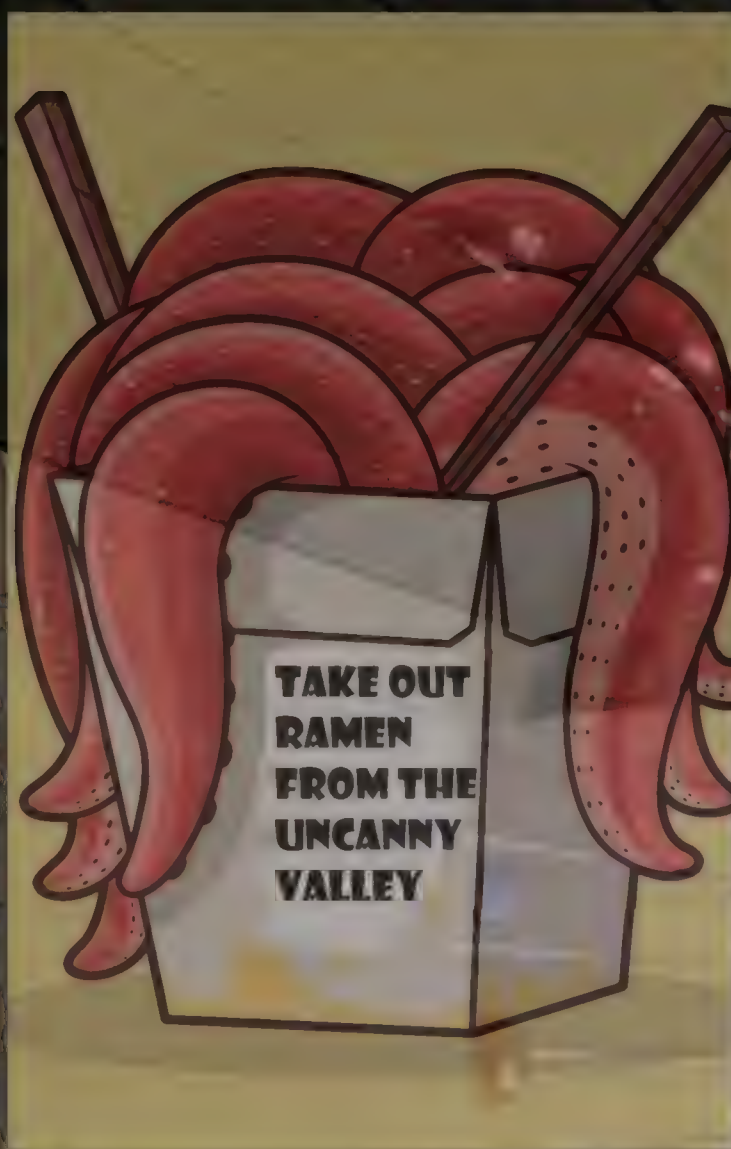
SNIFFER DOGS

Used in lower income areas where the real rich druggies don't get targeted









Implanted by Eric Gabrielsen

Undercover of the night...

They looked enough alike to be twins which they were... paternal... tall, compact with a crown of glossy jet black hair. Twenty-seven years ago they had been pulled from a orphanage in Pusan by AKOM a Korean tech giant and groomed for deep cover in Japan. A convenient traffic accident in Kobe, a man and woman with two twin boys killed. Except the twins then survived or more to the point two boys were later found alive in the wreckage. A wealthy patron adopted them and raised and educated them in a proscribed fashion. They were hired and then rose quickly in Toshiba's R and D which lead to being assigned to Odin's exclusive back engineering team.

"We got it." Leif said looking up from his screen. They had been at it for over ninety hours with just three sleep breaks and despite Akira's and Takeshi's subtle redirections he had broken into the crypto squirt transmitter's operating system. It was AKOM's benchmark setting tech and it was now compromised. As Leif linked to admin, Akira stood to block his view of his workstation as Takashi peeled the

flesh toned composite from his forearm and attached to Leif's data sink. The lab was under a mnemonic lock, any memory of what transpired within was segregated in both Akira's and Takashi's mind and irretrievable once they passed the threshold. The only way it could be accessed was by a code word being spoken which Leif did every time the entered but which they never retained. The composite instantly mirrored and internalized the sink's data after which Takashi deftly reapplied smoothing it to the anterior of elbow.

Tonight, Leif's co-researchers had oddly begged off so he had decided to solder on himself. There had been a break through today, had managed to backdoor into the operating system of a piece of crypto gear the team had spent the last six months back engineering. It was their first real progress which only added to his surprise as his assistants claimed pressing business at home. It was Leif Odin's usual stop after locking out of Toshiba's covert R and D that was located on the second floor of a carefully distressed pachinko parlour two blocks east. He and two of his co-researchers regularly participated in a Japanese timeworn office ritual known as nomikai which involved working their way through a war club of Sake, toasting themselves into near oblivion while stuffing themselves on the grilled chicken skewers.

Ducking his near two meter frame, he entered the Yakitory stand bringing greetings from the owner and two of the regulars. He was something off a curiosity locally, sporting a wild head of blond hair and beard that radiated gajjin, but being in country almost ten years his Japanese was without accent and excellent. He ordered a couple skewers of Yakitory and a masu of sake and slid onto the bench throwing out Konbanwas all around. The Yakitory stand Izakawawas nestled under a train line in the bustling Yarakucho neighborhood that lies in one of Tokyo's many entertainment districts. For its walls, the owner had strung up coaxial cables to the concrete bridge supports and attached to them thick sheets of dusky painters plastic. From the outside it glowed a ghostly white, reducing the images of those inside to spectral shifting surreal smudges. Heated by a dented orange 20 year old Salamander designed by a defunct Malaysian concern roared like a tame jet engine making it warm at chest level but freezing at your feet next to it was a long table made from a chipped piece of particleboard balanced on two Tokyo public works saw horses making seating for eight, a cooking area with two butane gas rings, one that held a large dented pot kept to a full boil to heat Sake and a small brazier on which the yakatori grilled. It was Leif Odin's usual stop after locking out of Toshiba's covert R and D that was

DATASTREAM 040

located on the second floor of a carefully distressed pachinko parlour two blocks east. He and two of his co-researchers regularly participated in a Japanese timeworn office ritual known as nomikai which involved working their way through a war club of Sake, toasting themselves into near oblivion while stuffing themselves on the grilled chicken skewers.

"Sumimasen." trilled a very feminine voice. Lief looked up groggily through a veil of rice wine and forced himself to focus. He saw a young girl in traditional geisha mufti, grinning shyly though bone white face paint. "Hai" He managed. She smiled and then showed him a small black sphere that was cradled in the palm of her hand. Deftly taking it between thumb and forefinger, she squeezed it, causing a stud to pop up. Bowing, she depressed it, igniting two ounces of hexogen wrapped in fifty meters of razor sharp monofilament. A soundless flash of white filled his world.

Takashi and Akira were two blocks east of the pachinko parlour when the blast rang out. Both men turned and looked back as they practiced due to the near ubiquitous cc coverage in Japan and then continued walking. ** "Morning, Sunshine." Leif opened his eyes and saw the same white which slowly resolved into a very Japanese hospital room which did not sync with the greetings which though in English had a distinct Dutch lilt. You sound like my grandmother. Lief said in Dutch. Danke said the yet to be identified man. Leif turned his head, pain flared down the length of his body causing him to gasp. "Easy." Said the voice. "We had to graft almost forty-three percent of your body mass replacement tissue on top of composite scaffolding to replace what was damaged in the blast." "Blast? That was an explosion last night?"

Three vans packed with HR retrieval and recovery showed up eleven minutes after the blast, screeching to a stop and discharging Rapids in full beetle, Bullpup assault rifles at the ready swarmed toward Akira and Takashi. The response time was thirty seconds faster than AKOM's predicted. Takashi dropped to one knee as he ripped free a Glock Talon with extended mag and opened fire.

A tan, angular face came into Leif's field of vision and smiled, exposing a brilliant swath of enamel, his ice blue eyes actually sparkled as he raised his hand palm outward revealing a corporate illuminare tattoo. "Jon Yuan? HR recovery?" Leif read confused. "Got it in one." Jon said flipping over his hand to grasp Leif's. "And you've been OOC for close to three months since the incident." "Three months?" Leif asked with dawning horror. "OOC? Out of commission?" "It was a near thing, your two co-

researchers had arranged your...near obliteration." "Takashi and Akira? Who the fuck was the Geisha?" "A Korean AKOM operative, meat puppet, both Akira and Takashi AKOM deep operatives, Akira suicided before we could pick him up, but we gleaned Takashi till he was almost fuckin see-through." Leif winced. HR was notorious for being enthusiastic. "So how much damage was there?" Lief asked as he pulled up his hospital johnnie exposing an unmarked blameless Expanse of torso. "Quite extensive but being a tier 1 employee has its benefits." The HR exec said with a wink. "Thankfully the head trauma was minimal, the force of the blast was centered on mostly your trunk and upper thighs. The wire that wrapped the explosive was treated with a hemorrhagic enzyme, so bleeding was a issue. Once they locked you into the medical AI and got you stable, things progressed quickly. Replacement tissue was grown on cartilage scaffolding and grafted using cutting edge antivirals, recovery under a stim net for tissue regrowth and muscle tone." "Thanks?" Lief said uncertainly. "De nada." The HR exec said around a grin.

The cell phone tower was disguised poorly as an Elm sat half in and out of the shadow of a shipping container condo rack. Akira ducked behind it as bullets kicked up quarter sized pieces of asphalt behind him. Pulling the composite from his arm, he slapped it to the metal of the tower, triggering an integral capacitor to discharge, punching to data up and out onto the net. The impact of a soft alloy round spun him onto his back. Stunned he watched the closing Rapid pull out the Zip cuffs.

DATASTREAM 041

Disclaimer - Not too many spoilerz.

Forget that T3, T4, T5 and the Sarah Connor Chronicles ever happened and What you get is Dark Fate which has just dropped online in HD and is way fucking awesome.

I feel like after many fuck-ups, blunders and no direction that the James Cameron team have restored faith to the franchise capturing the essence of the rage that is Sarah Connor against the machines. What's most impressive is that it goes way beyond what its predecessors have done in terms of believable threat. I honestly didn't know who was going to live and who was going to die, including the "new John".

The visual effects are way fucking awesome too and before you go into the de-aging debate, let me tell you these cunts pulled it off for once.

Grace, an over engineered human comes from a future where Skynet does not exist but rad Roman "Legion" Robots still do. She has a mission, to fall off a bridge, steal some clothes and protect a you Mexican Woman who is going to help save the human race somehow. I know I know, your asking yourselves why isn't it ever an Australian who saves the world?

Teaming up with her pals Grandpa 101 and the original mutherfucking Sarah Connor Linda Hamilton, they battle to save the future from an even worse fate than-skynet... You guessed it Diego Ramos the pop singing sensation.

Once Diego is out of the picture, nothing can stop the insensitive robots from taking over the planet and wiping out the human infestation once and for all, one can merely survive the future and pick your battles.

Overall its a good film, i was on the edge of my couch for the second half and i give 4 out of 5 fuckz



Had a little chat with Tasmin Archer the other day, only because i thought she had one of the greatest songs of the 20th century. She was very generous and kind. Here's wot all the fuss is about.

<https://youtu.be/yGL2lc8RYok>



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Being a Cyberpunk, dealing with mild depression and the fucksticks who try to cure us.

In our world there is loneliness of some sort and social anxiety which drives us to work from the shadows and hack or attack fools indiscriminately. As society pushes forward to the brink we will definitely be seeing more in the way of nano drug solutions and hypocritical pseudo medical professionals offering us freedom from our ills. Since the early days of the wild west of the web pseudo science has been there led by a bunch of hacks trying to offload the latest gimmick or drug which ultimately we know will not cure our ills but create more problems. I'm not even going to start on Gwyneth Paltrow's Vagina Candles (She should be locked up by the way).

There's a freedom in knowing that you are part of the subversive collective. Even if you Trode solo, it's those little wins that keep us going. It might come in the form of a successful hack or a music mix you've just downloaded finding layers in the strings of the soundtrack to your digital sea. Obsession and love also appear on horizon from time to time just never forget that those are more often than not pussy, dick or slide traps and not at all what you are expecting them to be.

It's those little wins that I want to focus on. Remember back in the 90's when the first energy drinks were coming out? My favourite was a one called "Magic" which I just had to have if I was going to code or going into battle on half life with that gorgeous rival cyber goth chick at the local cyber cafe. I asked her out for months but little did I know that all I had to do was let her win a game before she decided to make out with me. I didn't by the way, she beat my ass from that time on. Little Wins...

I think as you get older you hold on to those experiences more, they become little gemstones you can stare at when depression comes a knocking. You find your bag of tricks to deal but I don't think you really get cured per se, and that's why the attitude of promising drug relief is so dangerous. Don't get me wrong there are those who definitely need to be medicated but don't ever look upon it as a cure. Even the promise of nano drugs of the future is just so fucking dangerous. Play Deus Ex

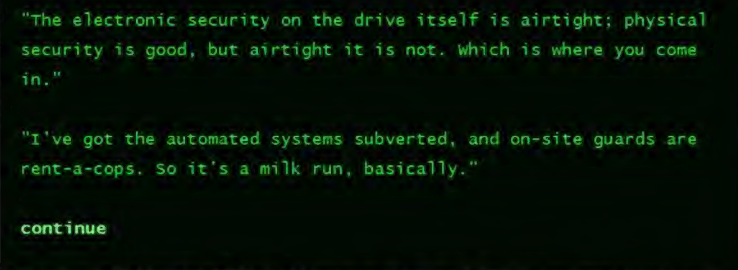
Human Revolution as an example.

Filling your time with distractions is no cure either. If you don't feel like you are pursuing the things you love then you are distracting yourself, life might be easier being a salaryman or working in some field you have no passion for, you might be struggling on benefits or you might be on the street and have determined that this is all you deserve. I think if you have a computer or mobile device and you are reading this right now that you have the potential to change the world in your own way. You might give in from time to time and its okay to be a failure in the eyes of others but what the fuck do they know. They don't know you. They don't know your exploits. They don't know that you charmed your way out of being shot in a ditch or you got to kiss that one. Your life is not over. You are part of a larger army of online comrades who are fighting to keep the digital world free.

Keep making forward steps and you will see.

Anyone can search and find the latest games on steam or GOG or whatever platform. We, the children of Lain, are in search of the coolest independent and quirky cyberpunk shit there is to find. Below is a good sampling of games:

1. ARC - Browser



A Cool little HTML 5 Game that gives you missions and other shit to solve. <https://deercity.itch.io/arc>

2. 404 Missing Page Detective Agency - Browser



With some pretty fking cool music you'll be thrust back into the world of lost pages. <https://snozbot.itch.io/404-missing-page-detective-agency>

3. The Hackers Cave - Browser



<https://gabrielcornish.itch.io/the-hackers-cave>

4. SINDOME - Roleplay/ Browser



<https://www.sindome.org/timeline/>

5. Neon Haze - Browser



...Prepare to turn down the volume for this one

<https://sub-q.com/play-neon-haze/>

I hope you enjoyed this issue of Machete Girl. There's much more to be seen on Patreon and expect many more issues this year. Sign up now for more content just like all the cool cyberpunk kids do and help support future issues!

<https://www.patreon.com/machetegirl>

SARA RAE - EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

MACHETE GIRL MAGAZINE 2020

THE GATEWAY DRUG TO YOUR CYBERPUNK DREAMS



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